FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 4/11/68

Mrs. BESSIE BREWER, 422½ South Main Street, Apartment 2, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

She advised that she is the manager of the boarding house at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, and that she and her husband, FRANK BREWER, reside in Apartment 2 which also is the office for the boarding house. She stated that they have managed the boarding house since March 12, 1968, having succeeded a Mr. H. R. THOMPSON, who had been the manager for a short period of time prior to her. She also stated that the boarding house consists of 16 units which are single rooms and that all are located on the second floor level of 422½ South Main. She stated that 10 apartments are located on the south side of the building and 6 apartments are located on the north side and that both sides are joined by a corridor which extends from the south hallway to the north hallway along the west side or Main Street side of the apartment building.

Mrs. BREWER stated that on Thursday, April 4, 1968, between 3:00 and 3:30 P.M. in the afternoon a white male individual knocked on the door of her apartment which also serves as the office and inquired about renting a room. She recalls that he asked if she had a sleeping room but he did not ask for any particular room in the rooming house. She showed him Apartment 8 in the south wing, which is diagonally across from her apartment and which has a stove and a refrigerator in it. She stated that this room rented for $10 and he stated he did not need this room, he just needed a sleeping room. She then went through the corridor to the north wing and showed him Apartment 5-B. After briefly looking at the room, he indicated it would be acceptable and they then walked back to the office.

She further stated that Apartment 5-B rented for $8.50 per week in advance and that the individual who then identified himself as JOHN WILLARD pulled out a single $20 bill from his right front pants pocket and then gave her $.50

On 4/[illegible]/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1837-[illegible]-2c

by SA JACK D. VAHRENWALD and SA EUGENE A. MEDORI, JR. EAM/mnr Date dictated 4/10/68

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in change. She stated that the tenants do not sign any registration card or registration book and that she simply made out a receipt in the name of JOHN WILLARD and gave him the proper change for the $20 bill.

Mrs. BREWER further stated that WILLARD had no luggage at all and, in fact, she does not recall his having anything in his hands. She further stated that he did not ask her any questions and they did not engage in any conversation other than that which was involved in showing him the two rooms. She stated that she really did not pay much attention to him and that she does not recall very much about his appearance and that she did not look at his face very much. She stated that she has a habit of not talking too much to the male tenants at the boarding house and that she really did not give him much attention. She did state that she believes CHARLIE STEPHENS in Apartment 6-B in the north wing was in the hallway when she showed WILLARD Apartment 8-B.

Mrs. BREWER stated that after WILLARD left her office across the hall, she did not see him and was unable to say in which direction he went. She stated he could have gone downstairs or walked through the corridor to the north wing or gone down the staircase in the north wing.

Mrs. BREWER furnished the following description of this individual but stated again that she really did not get a very good look at him:

Name	JOHN WILLARD
Sex	Male
Race	White
Age	30 to 35 years
Height	Maybe 6' tall
Weight	Approximately 180
Dress	Believes he looked neat but unable to recall if had a coat or jacket on. Does not believe he did because she does not recall his having to push aside a jacket when taking the $20 bill from his right front pants pocket.

Speech

Manner of talk seemed usual to Mrs. BREWER

Mrs. BREWER also stated that she had a feeling that perhaps the man was planning to or was already working in the area because he wanted a sleeping room and that perhaps he was from the area because his speech seemed usual to her but that he mentioned nothing in this regard, and she did not ask him.

Mrs. BREWER further stated that her husband got home from work at about 5:20 or 5:30 P.M. that afternoon and that after finishing supper they were watching television and she would estimate that about 6:00 P.M. they heard what sounded like a shot. She stated that they went to the door of their apartment and then entered the hallway. She also stated that she believes Mr. R. L. BREWER, who is in Apartment 3, also came out of his apartment at about the same time as she and her husband and that she does not recall anyone else having been in the hallway. She stated she and her husband went to the end of the hallway to the staircase where the porch is located on the east side of the south wing and that her husband then stepped out onto the porch. Someone then shouted up to get back into the house and shut the door, and she stated that they did this and locked the door. She believes it might have been a policeman or sheriff's officer who shouted up to her husband. She stated that she still really had no idea what had happened. She stated that she then went back into her apartment but that her husband remained in the hallway for a few minutes and that she later came out and joined him.

She further advised that Mr. WILLIS ANSCHUTZ, who is the occupant of Apartment 4-B in the north wing, then knocked on the door to the corridor which joins the north and south wings and came through the hallway and told them that the man who rented 5-B had just run out with something wrapped up like a gun. Mrs. BREWER was fairly certain that this was what ANSCHUTZ said.

Mrs. BREWER furnished the following list of tenants at the boarding house as of Thursday, April 4, 1968:

Apartments - South Building

Apartment No.	Occupant
1	Vacant
2	Mr. and Mrs. FRANK BREWER (BESSIE) (office)
3	Mr. R. L. REEVES
4	Mr. HOWARD VANCE
5	Mr. J. L. MESSER
6	Vacant
7	Mr. FRANK MARLEY
8	Vacant
9	Mr. HAROLD CARTER
10	Mr. LEONARD EATON

Apartments - North Building

1-B	Mrs. JESSIE LEO LEDBETTER
2-B	Vacant
3-B	Vacant
4-B	Mr. WILLIAM ANSCHUTZ
5-B	JOHN WILLARD
6-B	Mr. and Mrs. CHARLIE STEPHENS

Mrs. BREWER stated that she had never seen JOHN WILLARD before and that the only time she did see him was on Thursday afternoon, April 4, 1968, when she rented Apartment 5-B to him. She stated that she did not believe she would be able to recognize this individual if she saw him again.